

Home Mission Herald.

OUR MOTTO, "NORTH AMERICA FOR CHRIST."

VOL. XLII.

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No. 4.

Home Mission Herald.

NEW YORK.

JUNE, 1874.

ALL communications for the American Baptist Home Mission Society should be sent to the American Baptist Home Mission Rooms, No. 100 NASSAU STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

Address.

Rev. E. E. L. TAYLOR, Corresponding Secretary.

J. B. HOYT, Esq., Treasurer.

Care of J. M. WHITEHEAD, Assistant Treasurer.

No. 100 NASSAU STREET, NEW YORK.

FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

American Baptist Home Mission Society.

WASHINGTON, D. C., MAY 23d and 25th, 1874.

THE American Baptist Home Mission Society met for its Forty-second Anniversary, in the Calvary Baptist Church, Washington, D. C., May 23, 1874, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The President, Hon. S. A. Crozer, in the chair.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. Webb, of New Jersey.

The President addressed the Society, expressing his appreciation of the honor of the position he held, and of the importance of the work they were called upon to do; the widening field, and the pressing claims of our country, demanding mission work.

On motion, it was voted that all Committees be appointed by the Chair, unless otherwise ordered at the time.

The following were appointed a Committee of Arrangements: Rev. J. W. Parker, Rev. G. W. Folwell, Rev. E. E. L. Taylor, Rev. S. R. Howlett, Wm. Stickney, Esq.

An abstract of the Report of the Board was read by Rev. Dr. Simmons.

On motion, it was voted that the Election of Officers take place on Monday morning, at 10 o'clock, and that the Nominating Committee be instructed to report by a printed ballot.

Voted that the reading of the Report on the Church Edifice Department be dispensed with.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Mr. Shoards.

The Committee of Five appointed last year to report on expenses at the rooms, presented their report through Dr. Lathrop, together with a supplementary report, as follows:

"The Committee appointed at the last annual meeting of the Society to report on the 'expenses at the rooms,' would submit the following:

"There was at first some uncertainty in the minds of your Committee as to the intent of the resolution touching the matter of expenses—whether by the phrase 'expenses at the rooms' was meant merely the salaries of secretaries and other employés, rent, and other like incidental expenses, or whether the resolution was designed to

have a broader scope, and to embrace the whole amount expended in conducting the business of the Society in all its departments. In order, therefore, that they might not fail to meet the largest expectation of the Society, the Committee have concluded to take the comprehensive view, and to submit a detailed statement of the entire expenses incurred during the past year.

"The receipts of the Society, from April 1, 1873, to March 31, 1874, have been as follows:

For Missions and Freedmen's Education.....	\$306,023.06
Church Edifice Fund.....	20,374.96
	\$326,398.02

"From this gross sum are to be deducted \$11,186.11—part of a fund contributed for Wayland Seminary Building, and reported last year—leaving thus, as the actual receipts of the year just closed, \$245,217.81.

"The expenses of the Society for the same period have been..... \$26,591.30

"From this statement it will appear that the cost of carrying on the business of the Society the past year has been only about 11 per cent. of the amount received into the treasury. This is a gratifying result, and one which compares most favorably with the expenses of other societies engaged in work similar to our own. It ought moreover to be noted, that this Society, at no increase of expense, could do twice the amount of work hitherto accomplished. The friends of Home Missions, therefore, if they desire to reduce the proportionate expenses of the Society, have only to increase their contributions to its treasury.

"While, however, your Committee, in common with yourselves, are gratified at the unexpectedly favorable exhibit above disclosed, they, at the same time, sympathize with you in desiring that the business of the Society should be conducted upon the most economical plan consistent with efficiency and healthful progress. They are, therefore, prepared to offer the following suggestions and recommendations:

"The general work of the Society—by which is to be understood the supervision of missions, and education among the freedmen—has been assigned for several years past, to two secretaries. There seemed to be, at one time, a necessity for this arrangement, but your Committee are unanimously of the opinion that such necessity does not now exist, and that the whole work of the Society, in these two departments, could be effectually managed by one competent man, having the help of such clerical assistants as might, from time to time, be found to be needful.

"The Committee would, therefore, recommend that the Society, at this annual meeting, elect but one Secretary for the general work above indicated.

"With regard to the Church Edifice Department, the expenses of which are not drawn, to any extent, from the General Fund, and which, moreover, is charged, by vote of the Executive Board, with one-fifth of the expenses of the rooms, rent excepted, the Committee would suggest no change, but would recommend that for the present a secretary for this department be, as heretofore, elected by the Society.

"The employment of District Secretaries has been found to be, on the whole, a wise and profitable arrangement, and your Committee, on this point, have no suggestions to offer, except to recommend that,

where it may safely be done, districts now assigned to two secretaries should be consolidated into one. It is thought that, in this way, equally profitable work might be accomplished at less expense to the Society.

"The Committee would further recommend, that the Executive Board be constituted, in any case to use, even for temporary purposes, the funds appropriated for the use of one department, for the relief of another; but that money devoted to missionary work and freedmen's education, on the one hand, and for the Church Edifice Fund on the other, be reserved for the exclusive and immediate use of these respective departments.

"J. B. TREVOR,
"M. DAVIS,
"S. A. CROSER,
"T. F. HUMPHREY,
"E. LATHROP." Committee.

"Your Committee, although not fully prepared decisively to recommend the measure, would nevertheless venture to submit, for the consideration of the Society, the expediency of making the Treasurer of the Society a paid officer, or of constituting one of the Secretaries also Treasurer, whose duty it would be to devote to the financial interests committed to his hands all the time which might be found to be requisite to the thorough understanding and management of the property, and the entire monetary affairs of the Society.

"In throwing out this suggestion, your Committee would not be understood as reflecting in the slightest degree upon the competency of the honored men who have heretofore, without any pecuniary compensation whatever, managed the department referred to. These brethren, at great personal sacrifice, have given to the Society much time, and an amount of valuable service which can be fully appreciated only by those who are intimately conversant with the complex nature of the work in this line, constantly needing attention.

"At the same time, however, it is becoming more and more evident that no one man, actively engaged in business of his own, can give to the financial management of the Society all the time and thought that the enlarging work demands.

"The A. B. H. Mission Society is becoming—has already become—a very responsible financial corporation. Its permanent fund, its endowment fund, its real estate, and the large and growing Church Edifice Fund, are trusts which require the undivided attention of some able and experienced business man.

"The Committee have hesitated to incorporate in their report a distinct recommendation on the point named, because they remembered that their appointment looked rather toward retrenchment than an increase of expenses. It is deserving of earnest consideration, however, whether some movement, such as has been suggested, would not prove to be in the end a really economical arrangement."

The report was accepted, and its recommendations adopted. Voted, that the supplementary report be referred to the Committee on Nominations.

The following were appointed a Committee on Nominations: J. L. Howard, Esq., of Connecticut; M. Davis, Esq., of Vermont; Rev. G. J. Johnson, of Missouri; T. J. Hopkinson, Esq., of Pennsylvania; W. A. Gellatly, Esq., of New Jersey.

The following were appointed a Committee on Enrollment: Rev. Mr. Ambler, of Pennsylvania; Rev. Mr. Matteson, of Vermont; Rev. Mr. Abbott, of Massachusetts; Rev. Mr. Horr, of New Jersey; Rev. Mr. Webb, of Nebraska.

The Society listened to exercises by the students of Wayland Seminary, under the direction of Rev. J. M. P. King, Principal, consisting of reading, singing, addresses, and an examination in theological studies.

Rev. Dr. Gray offered the following:

Resolved, That the members of this National Convention desire, at some suitable time convenient for them and agreeable to him, to call in a body at the Executive Mansion to pay their respects to the President of the United States.

Resolved, That a Committee of three, representing this body, be now appointed, who shall confer with the President, and ascertain at what time it will be most agreeable to him to receive us.

Rev. Drs. Gray, Parker, and Outhbert, of Washington, were appointed the Committee.

After prayer by Dr. Castle, of Toronto, the Society adjourned to meet on Monday, the 25th, at 9 o'clock a. m.

MONDAY, May 25, 9 A. M.

The Society was called to order by the President.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Keyser, of New Jersey. Voted to adopt the Treasurer's report.

On motion to adopt the report of the Board, a discussion arose on certain statements contained in it.

Voted, that so much of page 22 of the printed report, commencing with the words, "In the spring of 1869," down to and including the words "Freedmen's schools," be referred back to the Board for correction, if found incorrect.

Voted to adopt the report of the Board, with the exception as above.

The Nominating Committee presented a report on the supplementary report of the Committee of Five, which was adopted as follows:

"The Committee on Nominations, to whom was referred the supplementary recommendation of the Committee of Seven, beg leave to report,

"That after careful consideration of the subject therein referred to and recommended as to a Treasurer, they are satisfied that there are legal difficulties in the way of carrying out the plan in the manner proposed by the Committee. Being, however, impressed with the conviction that some such plan, if practicable under the requirements of the laws of the State of New York and the constitution of the Society, is desirable,

"Would respectfully recommend that the said supplementary report and its recommendations be referred to the Executive Board, in order that they may report a plan by which they can be carried into effect.

"JAMES L. HOWARD,

"G. J. JOHNSON,

"M. DAVIS,

"W. A. GELLATLY,

"THOS. J. HOPKINSON." Committee.

"Washington, 25th May, 1874."

The Committee on Nominations reported, by printed ballot, a list of officers for the ensuing year.

Rev. A. P. Mason, Rev. Thomas Swain, Rev. D. B. Jutten, and U. D. Ward, Esq., were appointed tellers to conduct the election.

Voted that the thanks of this body be tendered to the officers of the House of Representatives for the use of the Hall on the Sabbath, and that the Recording Secretary transmit a copy of this resolution to the Speaker.

Rev. Mr. Burrows presented the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That we regard our one Baptist Historical Society as an important part of our denominational organization, and desiring the co-operation of Baptists. That we approve and urge compliance with the request made by that Society, that every clerk of an Association send the minutes annually, and that every Baptist author bestow a copy of each of his printed works and manuscripts of value for preservation.

Rev. Dr. Gray reported, on behalf of the Committee, that the President would receive the members of the Convention at 1 o'clock this afternoon. The report was agreed to.

Rev. Dr. M. Stone addressed the meeting on the subject of ministerial education among the Freedmen at the South.

The tellers on the election of officers reported the choice of the following, as reported by the Committee on Nominations, to serve for the coming year:

President—Hon. Samuel A. Croser, Penn.

Vice-Presidents—A. B. Capwell, Esq., N. Y.; Hon. William Stickney, D. C.

Treasurer—John B. Trevor, Esq., N. Y.
Auditors—William Phelps, Esq., N. Y.; Joseph B. Hoyt, Esq., Conn.

Corresponding Secretaries—Nathan Bishop, LL.D., N. Y.; Rev. E. E. L. Taylor, D. D., N. Y.

Recording Secretary—Rev. E. T. Hiscox, D. D., N. Y.

Managers—Rev. H. C. Fish, D. D., N. J.; Rev. Thos. D. Anderson, D. D., N. Y.; J. Q. Preble, Esq., N. Y.; Rev. Galusha Anderson, D. D., N. Y.; Edward Austen, Esq., N. J.

To fill a vacancy in Class 1875—Rev. Edw. Lathrop, D. D., Ct. Rev. Dr. Jeter, of Virginia, addressed the meeting on the education of the Freedmen.

Voted, that a Committee of three be appointed to draft resolutions with reference to the services of the late Secretaries, Drs. Backus and Simmonds.

Revs. A. J. F. Behrends, H. L. Wayland, and T. D. Anderson were appointed the Committee.

The Committee on Enrollment reported that there were representatives present from nineteen States, two Territories, from District of Columbia, Canada, and Italy; Life Directors, 56; Life Members, 140; Delegates, 76; total, 272.

After prayer by Rev. Dr. Pendleton of Pa., the Society adjourned, to meet at 2 o'clock, P. M.

During the recess, members of the Society, visitors and friends, to the number of about eight hundred, called at the Executive Mansion, and were received with great courtesy by President Grant, being personally introduced to him by Hon. Wm. Stickney of Washington.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Society was called to order by the President, at 2 P. M., and after singing, prayer was offered by Rev. A. E. Dickinson of Va.

The Society was then addressed by Rev. A. Gale of Minn., on Mission Work in the West.

This was followed by an address from Rev. Mr. Grimmel of Brooklyn, a delegate from the German Baptist Conference, on The Work among the Germans.

Rev. Dr. Sears of Va., addressed the Society on the subject of General Education in the South.

Rev. Dr. Caldwell of Mass., presented the report of a committee appointed last year on Mission Work among the French in this country. After a brief discussion, the report was recommitted for a further consideration, to be presented next year.

Rev. A. B. Jones of the Cherokee Nation, addressed the meeting on Mission Work among the Indians.

Voted that a committee of three be appointed to consider the subject presented by Dr. Sears in his address. Drs. Cutting, Lathrop, and Hague were appointed that Committee.

Voted that a committee be appointed to consider our Mission Work among the Indians. Drs. Johnson, Simmons, and Hovey, that Committee.

After prayer by Dr. Hague of N. J., the Society adjourned, to meet at 7½ P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

The Society was called to order by the President at 7½ o'clock, and after singing, prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. Levy of Pa.

Rev. J. N. Webb of Neb., addressed the meeting on our Work in the West.

Rev. T. D. Anderson of N. Y., spoke of the encouragements to future effort.

Rev. A. J. Broadus of S. C., made a statement with reference to the Wants of the Theological Seminary at Greenville, S. C. Several gentlemen added remarks on the same subject, when subscriptions were made, and a collection taken to aid that Institution, amounting in all to nearly \$2,500.

Rev. Dr. Faller of Baltimore addressed the Society, on its General Work, and offered the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, that the Society most sincerely desires that all remembrances of the late deplorable conflict in arms between two sections of this country, shall be blotted out by the blood of Jesus; and that in all time to come, offices of love and harmony may cement the hearts of all the citizens of our beloved fatherland.

Resolved, that in the providence of God, the time shall come when we will know no North, no South, no East, no West, except to love every portion of the country alike, and that again from every quarter the tribes of our Israel shall assemble in one harmonious council, we will hail that auspicious period. And meanwhile we sincerely hope that between this body and the Southern Baptist Convention there may be, annually, an interchange of Christian salutation by fraternal correspondence, and by messengers from each of these Societies to the other, bearing assurances of reciprocal kindness and cordial cooperation in the great enterprise confided to us by our Common Redeemer.

Dr. Wayland on behalf of the Committee to prepare resolutions on the retiring Secretaries, presented the following:

MINUTE:

"REV. JAY S. BACKUS, D.D., has been for twelve years a Secretary of the Society. During a large portion of this time, he bore alone the undivided duties of the office. When he entered on the work, the operations of the Society were on a very limited scale. Under his labors and largely as the result of his wise plans, the work has become expanded to an extent that could hardly have been anticipated by the largest faith. This increase in the field of the Society's operations brought with it a burden of responsibility, which words would fail adequately to describe. We record our thanks to him, and to the Lord who has achieved so much through him. We earnestly commend him to God, praying that his health, impaired by labor and care may be restored, and that he may be spared for many years of usefulness in the cause of Christ.

"REV. JAMES B. SIMMONS, D.D., entered on his labors as Associate Secretary in 1867; two years later the work of the Society was divided; and the Southern Educational Department was committed to him. The present condition of our educational work in the Southern States bears a most impressive testimony to the wisdom, the energy and the consecration exhibited in the location, and the conduct of the Freedmen's Schools and in the development of Christian enterprise and liberality in their behalf. He has written his name upon the religious history of an emancipated race. Their future will be his monument. We cannot ask more in his behalf, than that the same blessing of God may attend him in the labors for God and man which may hereafter engage his powers.

"Dr. Cutting on behalf of the Committee, on matters presented by Dr. Sears reported. The report was adopted, then reconsidered, and finally laid on the table.

"Dr. Johnson on behalf of the Committee on Work among the Indians, presented the following report, which was referred to the Board.

"The Committee on appeal of Rev. J. B. Jones of Cherokee Nation, would recommend the adoption of the following Resolutions, to wit:

Resolved, That, in the judgment of this Society, it is the duty of our Bro. Jones, early as a suitable successor can be secured to occupy his position in the civil service, to retire therefrom and devote himself exclusively to the evangelization of his people, especially the training of the military and the churches.

Resolved, That, if it be necessary to his support, while doing this, that he have aid from outside his field, we recommend that the Board of this Society make such appropriation as is necessary for this purpose.

"G. J. JOHNSON,
 "JAMES B. SIMMONS, } Committee."

Voted that the thanks of the Society are hereby tendered to the Churches and friends in Washington, for their kindly welcome, and generous hospitality; especially to the ladies for the admirably arranged, and bountiful refreshments furnished at the Church; and also to such railroads as have favored delegates with reduced fares, in their attendance on these anniversaries.

After prayer by Rev. Dr. Lathrop of Ct., the Society adjourned.

E. T. HISCOX,
 Recording Secretary.

[The following Extracts from the Report will be found valuable to Pastors of Churches in making their people acquainted with the work of the Society during the past year.]

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD.

The past year has been one of blessing and of trial. But blessings have chiefly abounded; and to God we render special praise and thanksgiving. The work has pressed us sorely, but we have had mighty helpers. Not only increasing thousands of dear brethren in Christ all over the land, but the Father, the Word, and the Spirit have all been enlisted on our side. Never were our receipts so large in any one year. Never were there more evidences that the God of Missions is our God. Your Board feel that it is a high and royal privilege that we are permitted to be "workers together with Him." For, united with Him our work cannot fail.

"He always wins who sides with God!"

THE SPIRIT'S PRESENCE.

The Holy Spirit has been manifestly present with our missionaries during the year. In the churches and in the schools, in prayer meetings and in families, conversions have taken place; and two thousand two hundred and sixty-four baptisms are reported. No doubt the more recent revivals will swell this number considerably.

NUMBER OF MISSIONARIES.

We have helped to support three hundred and thirty-five missionary laborers. These have been distributed over various parts of North America, in thirty-seven different States and territories.

THE SOURCES OF OUR INCOME.

In 1859-60 only *nineteen* States and territories contributed to our treasury. And even as late as 1868-9 only *thirty-two* States and territories contributed. But the *past* year, *forty-six* States and territories are represented on our list of receipts. Thus the Society is growing to be more and more national, not only in its work, but in the sources of its Aid.

INCOME AS IT RELATES TO NORTH AND SOUTH.

The great majority of our funds come from the Northern States, of course. But the South is rapidly increasing. E. g. Five years ago we received money from only *nine* Southern States; this year, from *fifteen* Southern States.

Five years ago, the State of Georgia gave us not a dollar; *this* year Georgia gives us \$446.

Five years ago South Carolina gave us \$13; *this* year South Carolina gives us \$431.

Five years ago Virginia gave us \$60; *this* year Virginia gives us \$1,277.

Five years ago North Carolina gave us \$113; *this* year North Carolina gives us \$2,031.

Five years ago Tennessee gave us \$156; *this* year Tennessee gives us \$2,104.

Five years ago the District of Columbia gave us \$119; *this* year the District of Columbia gives us \$3,473.

It will be noticed that these six States are where six of our schools are located. By far the larger portion of this money comes from the pockets of the Freedmen, though our white brethren have increased in their contributions also. It is proper to say that \$2,000 of the amount received from the District of Columbia was the gift of a dear brother formerly from the North.

WORK AMONG FOREIGNERS.

Your Board have done what they could during the year for the foreign population. French, Germans, Swedes, Danes, Norwegians, Irish, English, Hollanders, and the people of other European nations, are flocking constantly to our shores, and *must* be evangelized.

The French.—The towns of New England and of the West have received thousands upon thousands of French Roman Catholics within the last few years, and we have missionaries working among them successfully, but alas! too few.

The Germans.—On landing in America these resolute people scatter themselves widely. We find them in New England, in the Middle States, in Canada, in the West, and in the South. We have missionaries among them also, but again we exclaim, alas! too few. Think of the fact that the City of New York has come to rank as the second city in the world for its German population, Hamburg alone excepted! The Eastern and Western German Conferences have worked with your Board during the year heartily, harmoniously, and successfully. Rev. E. J. Deekman and Rev. J. C. Hasselbunn are the two enterprising general missionaries in this German work.

The Scandinavians.—These dwell largely in the Northwest. A heavy percentage of the population of the State of Wisconsin, and to some extent of other States also, is made up of these people.

Missouri.—In this State we have had only five laborers the past year. One of our missionaries, speaking of his particular section of the State, says:

"I think we have about the finest mission field on the continent. When I entered this field seven and a half years ago there were no Baptist churches here; now the Baptists are the most numerous body of Christians. We have a prosperous association gathered by your missionary. But large sections of country, with growing towns, are uncaptured by Baptists, and some places are destitute of preaching by any class of Christians. My soul is stirred within me over the destitution."

Kansas.—Twenty-four missionaries have been sustained, and nine new churches organized in this State.

The fields are white, and the appeals of Bro. Gunn and others are most urgent. There is said to be one county in Kansas, which, two years ago, was only a fertile desert. To-day it has nearly 3,000 inhabitants. One of our missionaries says:

"God is calling us as never before to 'awake to righteousness.' The tide of immigration is flooding our towns and peopling our prairies with a vast throng who need the Gospel. The truth which we profess, if exhibited in our lives and labors, will be the power of God unto the salvation of thousands. Our most urgent need is deep and ardent piety. A few Christians filled Jerusalem with their doctrine, because 'they had been with Jesus.'"

Nebraska.—In this State we have helped twenty-six missionaries. Twelve new churches have been organized, and the Baptists stand only second in numerical strength. Under the excellent new departure of "more self-reliance," which our brethren there have adopted, they ought, with God's blessing, soon to stand first. Nebraska is a great and inviting field, urgently demanding culture. It is thought that by the year 1900 it will contain 5,000,000 of people.

Dakota.—In this territory we have sustained *five* missionaries. Rev. G. W. Freeman says, under date of January 1st, 1874:

"I organized a church of twenty-seven Danes last evening. The outlook for Baptists in Dakota was never more encouraging than now. This is the thirteenth church in the territory. I am called on, to assist in organizing another one next week." Again he writes: "The Baptists hold and control their full share of property and influence."

Colorado.—On this field, Rev. James French and eight other laborers have done valiant service. But the field is vast; the distances great; and the embarrassments by no means inconsiderable.

New Mexico.—In this great territory we have not been able to sustain a single laborer for want of funds.

Utah.—A prominent Baptist minister called at the Rooms a few months ago, and, taking his seat beside one of the Secretaries, exclaimed as follows:

"Well, my dear brother! It's a great, great work—this work of Home Missions! I have just returned from extensive journeys through the West. And I don't know what will become of those vast and increasing populations all pressing on in their sin, except as the churches and church-members work through this Home Mission Society to save them!"

He spoke of Utah, and of the monster iniquity which oppresses her, and said:

"Salt Lake is a beautiful city of twenty-five thousand inhabitants, ten thousand of whom are Gentiles, and the country is rapidly filling up with Gentile settlers. We must have a Baptist church at Salt Lake."

And he continued: What will you do for California?

California is the grandest missionary field in the world. Southern California must be occupied at once. Why don't the churches pay more money for the establishment of the Kingdom of Christ in these great growing centres?

"The growth of the towns on the coast is really amazing. Santa Barbara had but thirty white inhabitants four years ago. Now it has four thousand five hundred, and will have ten thousand in two years. I found twenty or thirty Baptists there who ought to be organized into a church at once."

We are sorry to be compelled to add, that in this fine field we have been able to sustain but eight missionaries the past year.

DESTITUTION IN THE NORTHWEST.

Until a few weeks since there was not a single Baptist church within the whole Territory of Nevada. And that church was not planted by this Society! We are ashamed to confess it, but your Board has not a single missionary under appointment at the present writing either in Washington Territory, Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Montana, Arizona, New Mexico, Alaska, Nevada, or Missouri.

Surely, these great northwestern territories, each like a rising young empire in itself, demand from us many men, and much money, and very much of prayer and earnest Christian labor. We cannot toil too intensely nor sacrifice too much, to plant the Standard of Christ right early in these regions. We cannot cry too mightily to God to give us a spirit of missionary zeal and consecration. Here towns and villages are already springing up. Here great cities are to grow, — cities of the future — of whose names we have not even yet so much as a hint.

We certainly must do more for those thickening populations of the great Northwest.

THE MEXICAN MISSION.

Our heavy debt compelled us to appoint two of our Mexican preachers at reduced pay. Both concluded to do without our help altogether.

Rev. T. M. Westrup says:

"I had hoped that the embarrassment of the Society was disappearing, and that our Mexican preachers would be reappointed. They both acquiesced in the suspension, if necessary, only pained that Mexico, in this hour of overthrowing old and setting up new principles, should fail to receive the truth for want of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things. 'The Lord God Almighty reigneth;' this is our comfort, and we are full of faith and hope regarding his providences and dealings with Mexico. We are continually receiving proofs of the real Baptist convictions of the converts."

Under date of March 1st, 1874, he adds:

"We have had four baptisms lately, one at Monterey and three at Montemorelos. * * * Our increase is slow; but when our God shall send laborers much will have been done, preparing the way and making the paths straight."

He also speaks of the printing press which the Board sent him, and of a small Baptist paper which he is publishing.

Bro. Westrup's preaching and printing, let it be remembered, are all in the Spanish language, and addressed to Roman Catholics, and the six or seven small churches of his care are made up of converted and baptized Romanists. We need a score of men for Mexico, and thousands of dollars where we have hundreds.

LAMENTABLE STATE OF THINGS IN THE SOUTH.

Our hearts are drawn out in profound sympathy towards our white brethren in the South; and your Board desire to do their utmost to help them. Always, when possible, we make appropriations most gladly to assist them in sustaining missionaries of their own selection in destitute places. One of our missionaries from the North, now laboring in the South—himself a Northern man—whose sympathies, however, are warm and quick towards both races, writes us, that in some places in the South the white people are exceedingly poor; and that some even who were rich before the war, are ground to the earth by calamities which they lack the power to remedy. He says that some of the former pastors, unaccustomed to labor and unskilled in almost everything, are nearly helpless.

Who but has a heart of sympathy and a hand of help for our Southern neighbors in their sore sufferings? We ought to have a

hundred thousand dollars this current year to expend upon feeble churches of whites and blacks in the Southern and Southwestern States.

CORDIALITY OF OUR SOUTHERN BRETHREN.

It is most cheering to observe with what increasing cordiality our Southern brethren are working with us. We attribute this to the blessing of God upon wise measures. Your Board appoint white men of the South, and black men as missionaries. We aid white churches and colored churches. We make meeting-house loans to blacks and to whites. In short, we aim to work impartially, and in the spirit of the Gospel, for, and with, all. Five years ago, in his very first trips South, Secretary Simmons took special pains to visit several of the prominent brethren among our Southern ministers, and converse with them about the best methods of conducting our freedmen school work. He received from them then, and has received from them repeatedly since then, most valuable counsel.

DR. STONE'S MISSION.

Rev. Marsena Stone, D.D., has preached and held ministerial institutes chiefly among the out-lying masses of freedmen remote from our schools. His missionary labors have been abundant. He reports three hundred theological lectures and sermons in six months. The lectures were delivered to freedmen and the sermons partly to whites and partly to colored. He thinks we ought to increase our working force among the freedmen ten-fold. But how can we do it, consistent with the demands made upon us in the Northwest?

One-third of the year, or more, Dr. Stone is expected to spend in the direct work of collecting funds for our treasury.

GROWTH OF FREEDMEN'S SCHOOL FUND.

In the month of May, 1869, the Board, in designating "the division of labor for the Secretaries," designated "that for Secretary Simmons to be called the Education and Southern Department." During the year previous to this, the Baptists were much divided, and less than \$5,500 had been received for the schools for that year. During the next four years, the receipts for Freedmen Schools were as follows:

For the year ending March 31st, 1870	\$37,807
" " " " 31st, 1871	53,908
" " " " 31st, 1872	40,300
" " " " 31st, 1873	37,400

and the fund came out at the end of these four years of effort, not only with no deficit, but with over \$1,700 in the treasury. Thus, an average of over \$50,000 a year, for these four years, passed through your treasury for this work. In addition to this, about \$100,000 went to this school work during the same period (such as Freedmen's Bureau Grants, etc.), through influences brought to bear by us. This latter sum (\$100,000) did not pass through our treasury. If we add this, it gives an average of about \$75,000 a year, or a sum total of \$300,000, which went to the Freedmen School work during the four years named.

For the past year, the Freedmen School fund and the General Mission fund have made common cause, in accordance with the Society's vote a year ago. And this is as it should be. For, if this Freedmen's School work is not a mission work, what has a missionary society to do with it? Your Board beg to express their profound gratification that you have taken this position. The Society is not three, but one. And the unity of our work, and the sacred importance of all parts of our work, must be maintained.

THE SEVEN FREEDMEN SCHOOLS.

WAYLAND SEMINARY, Washington, D. C.

REV. G. M. F. KING, PRINCIPAL.

Number of pupils, NINETY.

Of his students Bro. King says:

"A more industrious company, I believe, were never found in any school. In nearly every instance the progress in study has been satisfactory, and in some cases surprising."

"It has indeed been a golden harvest time among those who were formerly our students. One writes me that he has taught 150 persons to read; in this number one minister and a deacon. From Mississippi comes the good news of a great temperance reform, in which a former student has been an honored instrument. Another writes that he has been permitted to add 66 to the churches of his charge. Another rejoices over the payment of a debt of \$2,500 upon his church. And still another cheers us with the message that 'their new church will be fit for use soon!'"

If any ask: "Can black men lay brick? Can they be trusted to construct a large public edifice?"

We answer, examine the Wayland building and see! From the foundation to the crowning, its walls have been constructed by a group of colored bricklayers. At the head of this group, as master workman, and responsible for his work, was an ex-slave from Virginia. He was smart enough to purchase his own freedom before the war. He was smart enough to learn the trade of bricklayer, and now, as head mechanic, he has recently topped out the walls of a building which not only attracts attention, but commands admiration.

RICHMOND INSTITUTE, Richmond, Va.

REV. CHARLES H. CORY, PRINCIPAL.

Number of pupils, SEVENTY-FIVE.

Like all our Freedmen Schools, the growth of this institution has been healthy and rapid from the first. But the Richmond Institute is remarkable for one thing—its pupils have undertaken to endow it by means of money earned by themselves!

Seventy-two of them have subscribed one hundred dollars a piece, payable in five installments, of twenty dollars a year, with seven per cent. interest. One year has passed and one student has paid his full hundred. Others have paid their first yearly installment with interest, and so the work goes on. We give these young men all praise! They, and such as they, are the hope of their race. If there is another instance in any nation, or among any people, of any complexion, where a band of poor students, while still in their studies, have had the courage to attempt such a thing as this, we should be glad to know it!

SHAW COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE, Raleigh, N. C.

REV. H. M. TUPPER, PRINCIPAL.

Number of pupils, ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SIX.

Bro. Tupper, like all the principals of our schools, both teaches and preaches. These men do an immense amount of pure missionary work. Because of this, your Board have always, from the very beginning of these schools up to a year ago, paid a portion of the salaries of the principals out of mission funds. Previous to 1882, all was thus paid; afterwards but half; and still later only a third.

Bro. Tupper's church is a great power. His ministerial students help him in preaching, help in pastoral visitation, help in prayer-meetings, help in the Church Bible School. In all these departments he creates models for them to imitate when they go out to their churches. So pleased are the Board with this plan, that they have, by formal vote, recommended it to all the other schools.

EDUCATION OF FREED-WOMEN.

Dr. Stone well says:

"Any intelligent person can see at once, that if we educate young men for the ministry, and leave them to make marriages with heathen women, we practically nullify all our efforts to elevate the race, by leaving young minds to be molded by ignorant, superstitious women. Our young men will lose half the benefit of their culture by such alliances."

To those, therefore, who ask: "What are you doing for freed-women?" we answer—all the seven schools admit them except one. That one lacks room. Besides this, "The Estey Building" at Raleigh, N. C., is to be devoted specially to that object. Bro. Tupper writes:

"There are many encouraging signs in our work in North Carolina. I am in constant receipt of letters from all parts of the State, from persons who are anxious to enter school at the commencement of the next session. Many of them are colored young women, and in order to meet the demand, we are plan-

ning for the completion of *The Estey Building* by June 1st, if we can. Such is the enthusiasm and interest among the colored people to see the work progress, that at a recent meeting our colored students pledged \$1,000 to be paid this year towards the completion of this new building, which will double our school accommodations. They are true and noble men, and will pay the last cent. We confidently believe that God will bless and help those who try to help themselves."

SCHOOL FOR FREED-WOMEN IN LOUISIANA.

Number of pupils, SEVENTY.

Friends in Illinois have enabled us to support Sister J. P. Moore as a teacher of freed-women in New Orleans. She reports two week-day schools for women, numbering about seventy pupils, with ages ranging from thirty to forty. She has also conducted three Sabbath-schools each week, and done most excellent missionary service.

ORGANIZED EFFORT PROPOSED.

Rev. A. E. Mather, of Michigan, writes:

"As I look on the field, I cannot avoid thinking that the education of freed-women should call forth the organized efforts of the Baptist women of the land. Their co-operation in that work would lead to practical sympathy in all departments of Home Missions. Induce them to support the women already at work in the South; and the way would be open for enlargement."

THE BENEDICT INSTITUTE, Columbia, S. C.

REV. TIMOTHY S. DODGE, PRINCIPAL.

Number of pupils, EIGHTY-FOUR.

This school has eighty acres of land, and the students work daily. The teacher instructs them in agriculture and horticulture, and in the plainer mechanic arts. They plow and plant; they build fences and trim trees; they repair and paint the school buildings, and the teacher works with them and superintends.

This industrial feature is very popular with liberal givers. The Board not only encourage it, but enjoin it, so far as practicable, in all the schools, on the principle that "Self-help is the best help."

THE AUGUSTA INSTITUTE, Augusta, Ga.

REV. J. T. ROBERT, LL.D., PRINCIPAL.

Number of pupils, FIFTY-TWO.

In the last report, the Board declared that the contrast between this and our other schools in the matter of accommodations for board and lodging, and in some other particulars, was painful, and that these evils must be remedied. To some extent this has been done. But still further improvement is imperatively demanded.

THE NASHVILLE INSTITUTE, Nashville, Tenn.

REV. D. W. PHILLIPS, PRINCIPAL.

Number of pupils, ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHT.

The signal event of the year at Nashville has been the purchase of a new site. This was indispensable. Without it, the school was doomed. By vote of the Board, Secretary Simmons went to Nashville, in February, and after full consultations with Rev. D. W. Phillips and numerous other friends at that place, including both Southerners and Northerners, both whites and blacks, concluded a purchase on most advantageous terms.

LELAND UNIVERSITY, New Orleans, La.

REV. S. B. GREGORY, PRINCIPAL.

Number of pupils, ONE HUNDRED AND FIVE.

The property of this school, like that of several others, is held by a Board of Trustees, all of whom are Baptists.

At the particular request of Bro. Holbrook Chamberlain, who has given so largely to this school—and also for the purpose of simplifying the machinery, Bros. S. B. Gregory and L. B. Barker accepted appointments as teachers, directly from the Leland Board. And by unanimous vote of the Home Mission Board we have paid the salaries of these two brethren, through Bro. Chamberlain, the Treasurer of the School. Besides this, we have appropriated over \$2,000 towards completing the Leland building and supporting poor colored students for the ministry.

HOW LONG MUST WE SUPPORT THESE SCHOOLS?

The question now arises, When is the time coming that these freedmen schools will no longer need the support of this Society? We answer, as soon as able and faithful Boards of Trustees can be found who will endow them, and so take them off from our hands, and manage them as Newton and Hamilton and the Southern Theological Seminary are managed. We have no desire to retain permanently either the possession or the control of these schools. They must ultimately swing loose from us. And the sooner the better, so it be done **HEALTHFULLY**. Your Board, however, would not recommend that they be cut suddenly and wholly adrift till they have strength in themselves. The process of separation should be gradual. Like all healthy children, they should not *break away*, but *grow out* of their swaddling-bands. As we have said before, these **FREEDMEN SCHOOLS MUST BE ENDOWED** if we expect them to live.

The foundations of these schools have been generously laid in prayer and in faith, and with a view to permanency. Suitable sites have been selected. Baptists own the ground in fee in every instance. And all that is needed is a moderate endowment of \$50,000 or \$100,000 for each. The older schools should not long remain on the hands of the Home Mission Board. They should be made to go alone as soon as may be. This is our policy concerning the *Churches* we help; it should be our policy with these schools. Their dependence upon missionary support can in no other way be made healthfully to cease, as far as your Board can see.

CHURCH EDIFICE DEPARTMENT.

THE Church Edifice Department of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, has sought to fill its place during the past year as a "fellow-helper" in our system of agencies for the evangelism of North America. It is not the forerunner of the missionary, but designed to be made his coadjutor. Its chief object is *supplementary and stimulative*, in the important service of building suitable places of worship for the struggling but hopeful churches of the great West and South. It does not *give*, and so relieve these churches of any special burden in the effort to provide themselves with a Christian sanctuary, but *loans* them help till such times as they are able to return such loans. It thus extends the time of their payment in full for their house from three to five years longer, than otherwise they would be able to secure.

Over the broad field embraced by this department of our work, comprising, with slight exceptions, the Southern and Western States and Territories, there are not less than *ten thousand* independent Baptist churches, meeting steadily and more or less frequently for public worship, for mutual edification, and prayer. Less than two-thirds of all these churches are to-day supplied with any suitable house of worship which they can call their own, in which they can assemble as under their own vine and fig-tree, with "none to molest or make afraid," in the public worship of God. In many of the States and Territories West, the proportion of shelterless churches to those possessing sanctuaries of their own is still greater, bearing a proportion of *three*, and in some States *four to one*. So long as these churches are without meeting-houses, they must necessarily remain feeble, and unable to sustain the stated preaching of the Word among themselves without aid from the Home Mission Board. They cannot be expected to settle a pastor until they have first secured a suitable house of worship; while such a house, in a prosperous community, very soon will enable the church to become self-supporting or independent of the Home Mission treasury.

This of itself reveals the *missionary* character of our work, and opens a wide and most important field before the Society in this specific department of Home Mission service. Indeed, it is impossible to conceive how the great object at which our missionary movement aims, is to be accomplished, without being linked to some such movement as contemplated in this department of our work.

Among the brethren of all our leading sister denominations a distinct organization, separate from every other, with its Board of

Directors, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries, and agencies to reach the churches and secure their annual contributions to this object, have been deemed necessary to promote this department of mission work. With us, it has been deemed the wiser plan to unite this work more closely with our mission work, under one and the same Board of direction.

In the plan of other denominations, there are doubtless important advantages resulting from an annual presentation to all the churches of this specific Christian work, pressing it upon the hearts of all the membership of the churches, enlisting their sympathies, prayers, and generous contributions. In the estimation of some, there may be also an advantage in separating from all others a work of such distinctness and importance as this department of religious benevolence, and thus holding it up more prominently before the minds of all our churches.

One of the most decided elements of weakness in this our plan, in contrast with those of other denominations in this work, is doubtless found in its comparative separation, if not isolation, from our churches as such, and from the masses of our people.

No public collections are ever solicited for it. The masses are not asked to give their money into its treasury. Few, if any, Baptist churches, as such, have ever been asked to give a collection to its fund. It is not made prominent by our agents or District Secretaries. With few exceptions, the fund has been augmented and brought to its present state through the single efforts of its Secretary, and by personal and direct application to individuals. It may be questioned whether the broader and more universal sympathy of the churches, awakened by its separate annual presentation to them, and their generous contributions to it, are not important, if not essential to its greatest efficiency—whether indeed, it does not claim, as among other Christian denominations, a separate and distinct annual offering in its behalf.

Aside, however, from this separation of its claims from the masses of our people—a seeming necessity so long as it remains a sort of bureau of the Home Mission Society—there are such manifest advantages growing out of its close relationship to and as an integral part of an undivided Home Mission Society, as in our estimation, to more than overbalance all the disadvantages which can be enumerated from such close union with it.

The cost of conducting its business, the percentage of its expenses, are less than half of what would be required if made a separate and distinct organization, a consideration of no small moment in our system of benevolent agencies.

More important still, the churches needing its aid are very largely the same churches which require during their early struggles, alike the aid of the Board in the support of its pastor. The same fields which most loudly claim the sympathy and fostering care of the Board in its more strictly missionary work, are those where a meeting-house building is most of all essential, and where aid to them is most imperative. As it is of the first importance to a missionary pastor that he be furnished with a suitable house, in which to gather the people and organize a *permanent* church; as indeed it is of doubtful propriety to send out the missionary where we are unable to supplement his work with aid if required, to build a suitable house of worship, so alike is it essential often for the very existence of the church, and its success in paying for its sanctuary, that it share, for one or more years afterward, the fostering care and appropriations of the Board for the support of a pastor. The missionary must not be left without the house; nor, on the other hand, when by a wise and timely loan, a house has been built, must the church be too early abandoned, and left without a pastor, and the house pass out of their hands, and the enterprise be ruined for the want of a small annual appropriation for his support.

With interests thus mutually inter-penetrating each other, and so nearly identical, and upon the same field of missionary service, who so well as one and the same Board can exercise a wise and successful oversight over all these mutual and common interests? The Baptist denomination has reason, we believe, to congratulate itself over this